



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Census data helps your community: Collectors hit the mid Murray area

In just over two week's time, on Tuesday 8 August 2006, more than 20.5 million people across Australia will be counted in the National Census. In South Australia, Census forms are about to be delivered to more than 670,000 households across the state by the Australian Bureau of Statistics army of Collectors.

While most people are aware that they need to fill in a Census form on Census night, many may not be aware of the ways in which Census data is used to benefit their local community.

Mike McGrath, Regional Director, Australian Bureau of Statistics, South Australia, said:

"The Census gives us a snapshot of what is happening in local communities around the country once every five years. This information is invaluable in helping us to understand our communities and the characteristics within particular areas."

Mr Dean Gollan, CEO of the Mid Murray Council, urges everyone in the local community to fill out their Census form.

"The Census provides the opportunity for everyone in Mid Murray area the chance to stand up and be counted.

"There is no question that Census data is valuable to our society. This important data gives us information about the make up of our communities, such as, how many people are living where, ages of our population and whether people need assistance in their day to day lives. Census data provides information on things like unemployment figures. The Council often uses Census data when talking to groups and individuals about Council and its activities."

Mr Robin Bourne, Deputy Chief Executive Office of the Mid Murray Council reiterates this call saying that new Census data will help the Council and the community:

"The Council uses Census data in a wide range of its activities. For example, population and age data from the Census helps us work out voter numbers and ward boundaries. With accurate and up-to-date information, the Council is able to provide the community with the services, facilities and information that it needs."

Census Collectors will begin delivering Census forms from 28 July. They will return to your household to collect forms from 9 August to 28 August.

It is important that everyone is counted in the Census. By completing a Census form on 8 August, you can help plan for a better Australia, and a better community.

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